

# THE TRUE DEMOCRAT

JOHN G. COLLINS, Proprietor.

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Tallahassee, Friday, Nov. 17, 1905.

The vote seller is a bad citizen, but he who would purchase a vote is worse than a bad man, and is fit to hold no office in the gift of the people.

The Pensacola News continues its senseless "knocking" at Dr. Porter, but he does not mind it any more than he would the humming of a stegomia facia—nor so much.

Last Saturday's "new press edition" of the Jacksonville Metropolis was a marvel of metropolitan newspaper making. Its 24 pages, replete with timely and excellent matter, made up a publication which was a credit to the proprietors and the city.

The editor of the Tallahassee True Democrat might be convicted as a common scold. But perhaps this is what makes him a true Democrat.—DeLand News.

If there was no one to "kick" when things go wrong, things would continue to go wrong.

Have you received a copy of that Governor's Message yet? It is neatly "bound in boards," and is for free distribution. You might just as well have your copy, but be sure and ask for the first edition, and have no other. There are lots of copies of it yet on hand.

Congratulations began pouring into Pensacola last week upon the final disappearance of the fever there, but a case or two developed later, and Dr. Porter has wisely refused to remove the quarantine restrictions against travel thence into other portions of the State.

The Jacksonville Metropolis makes the following excellent and timely suggestion:

The lawyers of the State should join those of the profession in Jacksonville in a just rebuke of the rotten State printing. Such work is a disgrace, not only to Floridians generally, but a reflection on the State, which is most discreditable.

While it is not customary for the public to attend the meetings of the various executive boards of the State government, every citizen has a perfect and inalienable right to do so if he wishes, and also of free access to the inspection of the official minutes of such meetings, which are public records. This is a proposition which we sincerely hope no State official will have the hardihood to deny.

Monday's Jacksonville Metropolis brought to us the news of the entire destruction by fire, on that morning, of the plant of the Live Oak Democrat. We extend to our brethren in distress our sincere sympathy, and hope that they will be able to recover from the calamity and continue the publication of their excellent newspapers, daily and weekly, as well as the Florida Christian Advocate, which they were publishing under contract with the conference.

Editor Tom McBeath, of the Florida School Exponent, takes up the schedule of questions propounded to applicants for schools in Hernando county by Superintendent Russell, and suggests a number of jocose additions to the list, among which we find the following:

"Do you believe that ex-Governor Jennings discovered Florida, and that Comptroller Croom owns it? If not, where have you been living for the past five years?"

"Have you ever held public office? Why did you let go? Was there anything left when you turned it loose? Did you get away with the swag? If so, how many other officials did you have to 'divvy' with to keep 'em from 'squealing' on you?"

The Lake City Index, in reply to the Tallahassee True Democrat's charge that the Jennings administration was "infamous," says that Croom, Lamar, Whitfield and other appointees of Jennings were endorsed by the people at the polls. So they were, but what became of the chief "high roller," Governor Jennings? Was he endorsed? We haven't heard of a United States Senator from Florida by the name of Jennings. Peculiar endorsement the people gave to Mr. Jennings.—Inverness Chronicle.

But the fact that the "endorsement" of the people was made before the disclosures of crookedness was carefully concealed by the Index. Hence its later monumental silence on the subject.

## ANNOUNCEMENT.

### Hon. John W. Henderson Will Run For the State Senate.

TO THE PEOPLE OF LEON COUNTY:

I hereby announce my candidacy for the position of State Senator from the Eighth Senatorial District. To you I submit the question of my qualifications to represent you in that capacity. If nominated by the Democratic primary, and elected, I shall devote my best efforts to your service, and your interests and welfare shall be my sole consideration. Respectfully,

JOHN W. HENDERSON.

To the Citizens of Leon County:

Important events will face us at the next session of the Legislature. Many friends have been kind enough to think that my services would be needed and that, with my past experience with legislative bodies in this State and in my large acquaintanceship with its people, I could be of material help. I therefore announce that I am a candidate for the position of State Senator from this district, and if honored by your votes I shall in the future, as in the past, devote my best energies to all that is for the best interest of my people, and respectfully solicit the support of every good citizen of Leon county.

Very respectfully,

W. A. RAWLS.

### HILSON ON THE RACK.

At a recent meeting of the Jacksonville Bar Association the matter of State printing was the principal topic of discussion and the members present certainly handled the subject without gloves. After a general expression of individual views, the concrete sentiment of the meeting was crystallized into the following resolutions:

Whereas, The legal profession and public generally are without any official report of the decisions of the Supreme Court of Florida subsequent to the June term of 1902; and

Whereas, The reports in volume No. 44 of Florida Reports are printed on inferior paper, from overworn type, and ill-bound, so that pages are of uneven lengths and widths, and said reports, in appearance and durability, as also in promptness of their publication, compare unfavorably with those of other States; be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this body that the publication of Florida Reports should have the diligent attention of the Board of State Institutions, to the end that the official reports of the decisions of the Supreme Court shall be published within a few weeks at most from the adjournment of the June term, and that the same shall be printed on the best quality of book paper and skillfully bound, and that advance sheets of those reports shall be published as the opinions are filed; and

Whereas, It is reported in the public press that the 45th volume of Florida Reports, in paper and workmanship, is inferior to the 44th volume, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this body that the publishing of that volume in such shape would be a disgrace to the State; and

Whereas, The State has expended a large sum of money to procure a revision of the statutes of Florida, which will be of great benefit to the bar and the public generally, be it

Resolved, That his Excellency, the Governor of Florida, be requested to promulgate those statutes as of force on the earliest day practicable, and that the proper authority give publication to the printed volumes of that revision during the month of December, 1905.

Be it further resolved, That the president of this board appoint a committee to present these resolutions to the Governor of Florida.

Concerning the publication of the Revised Statutes, the contract for the printing of the same has been awarded to the Record Company, of St. Augustine, which fact positively assures a first-class job and the delivery of the work within the contract time, six months, which, considering the fact that the book will probably contain 2,000 pages, and that the edition required is 6,000 copies, is not unreasonable.

We have heretofore referred to volume 45, the copy for which has been in the hands of the State printer since April, 1904, as appears from the report of the Attorney-General to the Legislature of 1905; and have only to add to what has been said the fact that no delivery of said volume has yet been made to the official reporter of the court, who, after examining those copies attempted to be delivered to the clerk of the court, has stated that he would not receive or accept the same in their present apparent condition.

Great care should be taken that none but the very best men should be elected to the next legislature from every county. Many important questions will come before that body, and it will require Florida's purest and best men to correct the many evils that now exist in public affairs.

## SENATORIAL CANDIDATES.

Elsewhere in this issue we publish, in harsh contrast, the respective announcements of the two candidates for the State Senate.

We might well pause here, and let these two productions speak alone for the eligibility, the fitness and the disposition of the respective aspirants—the one saturated, as it was, with domineering insistence upon the writer's optimistic estimate of his alleged qualifications for the office and his complacent self-praise; the other breathing the kindest spirit of deference for the opinions and judgment of his fellow-men, and modestly submitting to them the question of his qualifications.

But we wish to say a word or two further—not about Mr. Rawls; he speaks for himself—but concerning Leon's representative candidate, who, aside from the actual work of the campaign in the field, which he will attend to with his customary vigor, should, perhaps, be somewhat more carefully introduced to a few of the voters of the county who have not had opportunities to become intimately acquainted with his merits.

John W. Henderson is a man of exceptional natural ability. He is "the son of his father," the late Colonel John A. Henderson—a man of undisputed and extraordinary talents, and a citizen who, perhaps, contributed more than any one man else, by shrewd judgment and wise counsel, to the overthrow of Republican misrule in Florida. Reared among us, carefully educated, with every act and incident of his career as boy, youth and man familiar to every Tallahasseean, there is absolutely nothing to which any one—even an enemy, if he had one of that kind—could point as discreditable.

In the brief time during which he has been practicing his chosen profession, he has won for himself an enviable position among his brethren of the Leon county bar. As a citizen, the estimate of his fellow-citizens of Tallahassee has been fittingly exemplified by his unanimous election, without opposition, to the office of mayor of the city—the only office he has ever held.

But, doubtless, the strongest recommendation which he could present to his fellow-citizens of Leon county is the fact that he has served the people of the city as its chief magistrate to their entire satisfaction, firmly and impartially administering the affairs of the municipality with rare wisdom and cautious conservatism and an eye single to the interests of the whole population. Neither before nor since his election to the office has he yielded to the sophistries or the demands of petty factionalism or interested favoritism. If he has an enemy or a critic in the whole county, such enmity or criticism may be traced directly to his firmness in resisting repeated attempts to swerve him from his position of absolute fair dealing and impartiality in this respect.

Mr. Henderson is the candidate of no faction. Adherents of both of the old factions which existed in this county have cordially united in urging him to stand for the office. His nomination by the whole people will, more than anything else that could occur, demonstrate the fact that factionalism in Leon county is a thing of the past. Let every voter in Leon county carefully examine the respective records of the two candidates, seek every means of information concerning them, and refrain from committing his interests to either until the campaign shall supply him with abundant grounds upon which to base his choice between them.

### MISINFORMED.

Tallahasseeans are refusing to pay an increase in phone rentals asked by the Southern Telephone and Construction Company of that city.—St. Augustine Record.

The Record has been misinformed. Tallahasseeans fully understand the attitude of the telephone matter. They ardently desired long-distance connection with other cities and States. The company explained the necessary requirements, and the council thereupon amended its franchise. No one has objected to this improvement in the service but the Daily Capital, and everybody understands why it has objected.

### A Daredevil Ride

Often ends in a sad accident. To heal accidental injuries use Bucklen's Arnica Salve. "A deep wound in my foot, from an accident," writes Theodore Schuele, of Columbus, O., "caused me great pain. Physicians were helpless, but Bucklen's Arnica Salve quickly healed it." Soothes and heals burns like magic. 25c., at all druggists.

### For Sale.

A medium-sized second-hand boiler, with equipments, for sale cheap. Apply at this office, or at Leon Hotel, and see it. 31-tf

## POLICY HOLDERS' MEETING.

A meeting of persons holding policies in the most prominent Northern life insurance companies was held in Jacksonville last Tuesday, and the existing situation was fully discussed, especially with respect to the giving of proxies to represent their interests in approaching meetings. After considerable discussion the following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That a committee of five, of which the chairman of this meeting be the chairman, be appointed to consider the advisability of appointing one or more proxies to the annual meetings of the representative insurance companies and to devise a plan for a permanent organization of policy holders of the State of Florida, and to provide for a fair distribution of the expense of such action as may be agreed upon; said committee to report to a meeting of policy holders called by the chairman of this meeting.

In conformity with this resolution the chairman appointed on this committee Charles E. Garner, chairman; C. D. Rinehart, J. I. Munoz, William M. Angas and John N. C. Stockton.

Upon motion of J. I. Munoz, the committee of five was directed to request, through the State press, the co-operation of life insurance policy holders throughout the State with the committee.

### "WITHDRAWN."

Take notice, brother printers, that the edition of the Governor's Message, "bound in boards," has been withdrawn from public distribution, and those who neglected our repeated urgings to secure a copy of this rare work of art will probably never have another opportunity to inspect and admire it.

We received an urgent request, this week, from a brother editor, to procure a copy for him, but, on presenting it at the Governor's office, we were informed that the State printer was engaged in preparing another edition, a copy of which would be sent to the applicant.

Now, let us suppose that the State printer has been promptly paid for the first edition (so far as we can learn he always collected very promptly—unless some objection or protest is made, as in the matter of the 45th volume of Supreme Court Reports); and that when the new edition appears, (the printing of which was made necessary by reason of the scandalously rotten work performed by him on the first edition), he puts in his little bill for the reprinting of the new edition—will it be paid?

We shall see. And we shall tell the public what we see.

### WASTE IN PUBLIC PRINTING.

The Landis committee, which was appointed by President Roosevelt, has succeeded in revealing the fact that there is a vast amount of waste connected with government printing. With reference to disclosures already announced, the Columbus Press-Post says:

The superintendent of the senate's document room testified that senators had documents bound and furnished them whether they wanted them or not. He recommended that only such copies as the senators desired bound from their original copies be printed; and stated that since he became superintendent of documents for senators the amount of government printing had increased fourfold. Still more startling was the testimony of A. H. Brewer, foreman of the senate folding room, who said that he had 204,000 copies of the department of agriculture year book on hand, which no one seemed to want. Five million volumes of this expensively illustrated book are printed each year, each senator being entitled to 1,188 copies, but few take the trouble to claim them or send them to their constituents. He stated further that there are in the senate folding room at the present time, 542,354 documents, for which there is absolutely no demand. Another witness, Daniel Ransdell, sergeant-at-arms, told the committee that he had been compelled to hire a huge, unused horse car barn to hold the books that are being piled in on him, and for which there seemed to be no demand. In the face of this statement the decision of the committee is clear, and there should be no hesitancy on the part of eliminating the gigantic waste in public printing, which is costing the United States many thousands of dollars, and which is bringing no benefit to any man, woman or child in the country.

### Sluggish Liver a Foe to Ambition.

You cannot accomplish very much if your liver is inactive, as you feel dull, your eyes are heavy, and slight exertion exhausts you. Orino Laxative Fruit Syrup stimulates the liver and bowels and makes you feel bright and active. Orino Laxative Fruit Syrup does not nauseate or gripe and is mild and very pleasant to take. Orino is more effective than pills or ordinary cathartics. Refuse substitute. For sale by all druggists.

### FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE

Makes Kidneys and Bladder Right

### For Fall Gardens.

Turnips and Ruta Baga Seed, finest quality, at Yaeger's. tf

## I. I. FUND EXPENDITURES.

The Tallahassee True Democrat finds that it costs more now by something like 40 per cent. to carry on the affairs of the State Internal Improvement Board than it did a few years ago. In a growing State, like Florida, it is natural that there should be some increase in the administration of the various branches of the State government, and an increase in expense commensurate with the increase in business should not excite wonder or surprise. The True Democrat might find, for instance, that the increase in the expenses of the Supreme Court have well nigh doubled in the past few years, but it would hardly be fair to make such a comparison without stating that the number of justices has been doubled. If the True Democrat will make its figures show that the expenses of the board are disproportionate with its present volume of work as compared with past work and expense, its utterances will receive considerably more attention from the thoughtful citizens of the State. The editor of the Telegraph confesses to something of a suspicion that the affairs of this board might be somewhat more economically administered, but our opinion is purely a superficial one, and we should like for the True Democrat to enlighten us by such comparisons as we have indicated. To deal in lump sums in matters of this kind hardly gives a fair idea of the subject.—Starke Telegraph.

In our issue of October 20 we gave an abstract of the receipts and disbursements of the I. I. Fund for the four years of the Jennings administration, together with a brief comparison of the same with an average for the twelve years next immediately preceding that period. In response to the foregoing courteous and reasonable suggestion from our esteemed contemporary, we take pleasure in presenting below a more particular and detailed comparison of disbursements between the two years, 1893 and 1894, and the two years, 1903 and 1904, the ten-year period intervening being sufficiently long for intelligent comparison:

DISBURSEMENTS.			
	1893-4.	1903-4.	Increase.
Regular salaries	\$4,190.00	\$5,959.00	\$1,769.00
Extra legal service	3,042.55	8,683.79	4,391.24
Furniture & fixtures	35.20	4,506.25	4,471.05
Printing & stationery	243.68	1,404.68	1,221.00
Postage and other			
Sundries	107.25	580.10	391.85
Totals	\$8,588.68	\$16,222.82	\$7,634.14

The percentage of increase in these items of expenditure for the period named was nearly 194.

During the period named the increase in aggregate assessed valuation of taxable property of the State was 35½ per cent.; the increase in the cash treasury balance was 36½ per cent., while the cash balance in the I. I. Fund was nearly forty-five times greater January 1, 1905, than it was January 1, 1895. Of course, as we have stated, this enormous increase resulted from excessive and unnecessary sales of State lands, uncalled for by any legitimate demand for funds, and the proceeds of which are lying idle, somewhere, save for such low rates of interest as banks are willing to allow on such deposits; and with absolutely no present legitimate or reasonable demand for the use of such funds for the purposes prescribed in the internal improvement act.

Will any rational and intelligent person contend that the enormous expenditures of this fund, shown by the foregoing table, have been caused by legitimate and normal growth in the transactions of the board, aside from the increase in its income, caused by reckless and improvident sales of the people's land?

### SOMETHING TO WORK FOR.

Ballot forms win elections. Most of them are constructed to win elections for the ignorant, and their leaders, the boss politicians. Some are so arranged that the man who can read, who knows what he desires, and is master of himself, has the advantage, but ballots such as those are few. You can count the States with right ballot laws on your fingers, even if you have lost one arm. Here is something that all organizations for improving our politics can turn in and work for with some hope of immediate progress. They ought to be able to kill the blanket ballot by a short, decisive effort; the ballot that turns a man's brains over to his party organization and puts a premium on subserviency and dullness. The wave of independence now rising throughout America is impeded by ballot laws and forms created in the days when machine government was more absolute than it is today. Some time we shall vote by actual machinery, in such a way that cheating in the count is impossible; but an even more important and pressing reform is that we shall vote on a ballot which gives independence an even chance. We want a ballot designed to facilitate the people's will, not one designed to keep them in slavery to the professional politicians whose autocratic rule we are restive to shake off.—Collier's Weekly.